



**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN RANCH AQUATIC AND FITNESS CENTER
15525 N. THOMPSON PEAK PARKWAY
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85260
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2009**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Robert Frost, Chair
Jeanne Alsbaugh, Vice-Chair
James Duchene, Commissioner
John Faramelli, Commissioner
Ron King, Commissioner
Stan Koczka, Commissioner
Harry Schlegelmilch, Commissioner

STAFF: Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director
Lindsay Adarme, Recreation Coordinator
Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager
Brad Bishop, Recreation Coordinator
Chuck Cady, Maintenance Coordinator
Courtney Clay, Recreation Leader
Don Davis, Parks and Recreation Manager
Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager
Hugh McGill, Parks and Recreation Manager
Lorelei Oien, Administrative Secretary
Christian Peck, Aquatics Manager
Reed Pryor, Parks and Recreation Manager
Jason Waldron, Stadium Coordinator

GUESTS: Chris Reich, President, Clavadistas Del Sol
Lia Fusaro, Clavadistas Del Sol
Richard Getzen, Vice-President, Scottsdale Aquatic Club
Gene Dafoe, President, Scottsdale Aquatic Club
Cindy Calvetti, Co-President, Scottsdale Synchro Arizona

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Frost called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above, noting the presence of a quorum.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chair Frost called for a moment of silence.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- **Study Session of November 18, 2009.**

Chair Frost clarified that in item 3, paragraph 8; he was suggesting that "a few of the courts," should be looked at for a different surface. In paragraph 9 he substituted, "made available to," with "considered."

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2009 STUDY SESSION, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER KING SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

- **Regular Meeting of November 18, 2009.**

Vice-Chair Alspaugh in the third paragraph of the Commissioner comments, clarified that the proceeds from Empty Bowls go to the foundation.

COMMISSIONER SCHLEGELMILCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 18, 2009 REGULAR MEETING, AS AMENDED. COMMISSIONER KOCZKA SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

5. PRO BASEBALL MAINTENANCE UPDATE

Jason Waldron, Stadium Coordinator, and Chuck Cady, Maintenance Coordinator, will provide information on the grounds and facilities of Scottsdale Stadium and the Indian School Minor League Complex.

Mr. Waldron said his staff oversees the Indian School Minor League Complex and Scottsdale stadium. The General Manager of the Giants has indicated that the Complex is the second most important facility to their franchise outside of AT&T Park. Scottsdale Stadium is home to the Giants spring training games and the Arizona Fall League. The entire crew works hard to ensure that the fields are always in top shape. Mr. Waldron displayed a series of slides illustrating the turf maintenance process.

Mr. Cady reviewed the facility event schedule. Giants Conditioning Camp starts in December, followed by the Celebrity Baseball Charity Game, Giants Fantasy Camp, before pitchers and catchers arrive for spring training. This year, modifications are being made to

the field so that it is consistent with what the Giants have at AT&T Park. Spring training runs through March and April. About 180 players use Indian School Park during this time. About 16 home games are played at the stadium. Youth and adult leagues begin in April at Indian School Park while extended spring training continues at two of the fields. The Senior League and high school and college playoffs are held at the stadium. The fields undergo a transition from rye grass to Bermuda for the summer.

Scottsdale Stadium is also used for special events such as the K-9 Trials, private parties, and meetings. From June through August the Giants Rookie League moves in with over 50 night games at Indian School Park. Mr. Waldron noted that there are up to 450 games between the six fields. The crew uses about 20,000 of sod, 66,000 pounds of fertilizer, 48,000 pounds of conditioner, 400 tons of USGA sand, and 250 tons of stabilizer per year.

In response to an inquiry from Vice-Chair Alsbaugh, Mr. Waldron said the crew works closely with the Giants to understand their needs and meet their field expectations. Commissioner Duchene inquired whether the fields use reclaimed water. Mr. Waldron responded that the stadium uses domestic water, while Indian School uses water reclaimed from the park lake. Commissioner Duchene inquired about the potential impact that the new spring training facility at Salt River might have. Mr. Waldron responded that the Giants plan to work closely with the Diamondbacks and Rockies to ensure that games are not scheduled too closely together. Commissioner Faramelli inquired about the annual budget. Mr. Waldron responded that maintenance costs are about \$900,000 annually, while operations cost about \$400,000.

6. UPDATE ON THE PUBLIC INPUT FOR THE PROPOSED BATTING CAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT CHAPARRAL PARK BY LOCAL YOUTH BASEBALL USER GROUPS

Tim Barnard, Parks and Recreation Manager, will provide update on the public input for the proposed batting cage improvements at Chaparral Parks by local youth baseball user groups.

Mr. Barnard noted that the Commission reviewed this item at the September 2, 2009 meeting. Since then, the City has been working with the Little League groups to address new location and cost issues that have arisen. The original proposal was to locate the batting cages side by side in a grassy area, but conversion of the surface would have been costly. An alternative solution is to split up the cages so they fit into two areas that have already been stabilized. With the grassy area remaining open, the park can maintain good crowd circulation. A public outreach effort was conducted in November, and the proposal met with broad approval. The leagues are in the process of obtaining construction quotes and preparing the work schedule. Staff is developing memorandums of understanding regarding operations and maintenance.

7. AQUATIC SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL REQUEST

Terry Erickson, Parks and Recreation Manager, Gene Dafoe, President, Scottsdale Aquatic Club, Chris Reich, President, Clavadistas Del Sol, and Cindy Calvetti, Co-President, Scottsdale Synchro Arizona, will review the 2010 sponsorship requests received from Scottsdale Aquatic Club,

Scottsdale Synchro Arizona, and Clavadistas Del Sol. These requests are in line with existing sponsorship agreements with each club. Team Presidents Gene Dafoe (SAC), Chris Reich (CDS), and Cindy Calvetti (SSA) will provide a summary of team accomplishments, financial activity, and team rosters for the last reporting period. The sponsorship requests are for the use of Cactus, Chaparral, Eldorado, and McDowell Mountain Ranch Aquatic Centers.

Chair Frost explained that the State might have to cut back on the revenue it shares with cities this year, which would result in more expenditure cuts. Additional pool user groups have noted their interest in sharing the pools with the swim clubs. One proposed change that would affect swim clubs is to replace a bid process with a co-sponsorship program, to be handled by the Commission and Council, rather than by the Purchasing Department. He noted that Commissioners Duchene and Koczka have volunteered to work with all the user groups to create a common agreement. It costs about \$3 million to run the pools during the year; much of that is for winter heating. In order to accommodate all the users, the City must forge a new environment. The Commission will consider renewing agreements for six months, which would allow time for a new arrangement to be worked out.

Mr. Dafoe said SAC has developed a nationally ranked team that fosters the qualities of dedication, hard work, and perseverance. It is a non-profit 501(c) 3, governed according to U.S.A. Swimming directives. The group has about 300 swimmers from 208 families, ranging in ages from 5 to 18 years old. Eight coaches are on staff, including a head coach with Level 4 accreditation. The 2010 budget is \$418,000, with most of that going towards salaries. Revenue comes from fundraising and dues. Dues range from \$65 to \$125 and are set to increase by 3% this year. Non-Scottsdale residents are charged an additional \$7.50 per month. SAC is ranked within the top 30 clubs nationally, yet has a dues structure that ranks in the bottom third. Participants effectively pay an average of \$2.50 per hour coached. It is one of only 24 Level 4 clubs nationally, and is the top 18 and under club in Arizona. Many participants go on to earn collegiate scholarships. SAC has contributed over \$25,000 to Scottsdale capital improvements over the last four years. SAC's success depends on its co-sponsorship agreement with Scottsdale. The group is willing to help offset some of the City's pool expenses. The club's ten-year growth plan is to increase participation to 450 to 500 youth.

Commissioner Duchene inquired about the costs incurred by other top clubs nationally. Mr. Dafoe said some teams pay hundreds of thousands of dollars to use pools, or have to build their own facilities. The members understand the City's financial situation, and are willing to contribute. Chair Frost inquired about the out-of-state visitors attracted to meets in Scottsdale. Mr. Dafoe responded that SAC makes deals with local businesses for lodging and dining to accommodate them.

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIX-MONTH AQUATIC SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL REQUEST BY THE SCOTTSDALE AQUATIC CLUB FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2010. VICE-CHAIR ALSPAUGH SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

Ms. Cameron noted that SAC's proposed fee increase would require Commission and Executive Director approval, and that the matter would be agendaized for a future meeting. Chair Frost felt that it should follow the coordination meeting, since that could have an impact on what other groups are charged.

Mr. Reich said CDS is a comprehensive youth diving program that aims to provide a healthy, nurturing environment. The program accommodates everyone from beginners to those who compete nationally and internationally. Scottsdale's co-sponsorship is vital to the CDS effort. There are 48 divers in the program, and 67% are Scottsdale residents. Fundraising covers less than 20% of operating expenses, with dues covering the rest. CDS awards scholarships in excess of \$8,000. The club hosted the Fall Classic Invitational, which attracted 150 divers from the western U.S. and Mexico. Six members were finalists in the Arizona High School Championships, and one was a national champion in the boys' 300-meter event. One diver competed in the Junior Pan-Am Games in Vancouver. CDS is hosting Spring Regional meet in March, and the Cactus Invitational in October.

COMMISSIONER KOCZKA MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIX-MONTH AQUATIC SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL REQUEST BY CLAVADISTAS DEL SOL FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2010. COMMISSIONER KING SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

Ms. Calvetti said Scottsdale's facilities are superb and allow the SSA to offer practices to several age groups simultaneously. Enrollment has increased by more than 50 percent in the past year. One third of the competitors live in the area of the Aquatic Center. Nobody is turned away, and anyone can join at any time. The fee structure remains below the 2006 rate. Monthly fees are used exclusively to cover coaching costs. Additional expenses are covered through fundraising efforts. The club hosted two mermaid days in the fall to introduce young girls to the sport, and the Cactus Classic in February.

COMMISSIONER FAREMELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIX-MONTH AQUATIC SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL REQUEST BY SCOTTSDALE SYNCHRO ARIZONA FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2010. COMMISSIONER KOCZKA SECONDED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY A VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

Chair Frost suggested that each club quantify the economic impact that their swim and diving meets have on the local economy. Commissioner King suggested a cost comparison to determine what the City would have to spend to run similar programs. Scottsdale appears to be getting substantial value from the clubs' service to the community. In response to an inquiry from Chair Frost, Ms. Erickson said none of the sponsored groups currently use Eldorado Pool.

8. COMMISSIONER REPORT

The commissioners will give updates on events and activities they have attended since the last commission meeting.

Vice-Chair Alspaugh discussed the arts and crafts event at the Senior Center, noting that vendor participation was up 12 percent over last year. Empty Bowls was successful as well. She recently took the opportunity to hike in the Preserve and discussed the quality of the experience with several people she met there. The Preserve volunteers are very active in communicating with people.

Commissioner Koczka said that during the Thanksgiving weekend he talked to hikers at Pinnacle Peak Park. They shared their support and offered many good ideas. The Arizona Fall League attendance seems double what it was last year. Mr. Waldron noted

that Scottsdale led league attendance this year, averaging 870 per game. Commissioner Schlegelmilch noted that attendance was strong at the carnival the City co-sponsors at Cochise Elementary School. Chair Frost said he also had an opportunity to talk with the volunteers at Pinnacle Peak Park over the holiday, and toured Grayhawk Park with staff.

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K))

Jan Cameron, Parks and Recreation Director, will update the Commission on the status of events and activities of the Parks and Recreation, and Parks and Grounds Management Divisions. This includes, but is not limited to, updates on programming, special events, calendars, and upcoming meetings.

Ms. Cameron announced that the December 16 meeting has been cancelled, while the January 6 meeting would be held at Eldorado Park. Chair Frost requested that a future meeting be scheduled at the new library.

Ms. Cameron noted that upcoming activities include Holiday Lights from December 11 through January 2. The Holiday Harmony tree lighting is on Saturday. The Sports Complex hosts the Wild West Rugby Fest this weekend. Pinnacle Peak Park has the Jingle Hike on December 12. The Aquatic Task Force meets on December 14. Ms. Cameron proposed sending all future Commission packets via email to save on postage and materials cost. The Commission agreed.

Chair Frost noted that he plans to attend the Budget Review Commission meeting on December 10 to discuss the proposed 2010 bond initiative.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

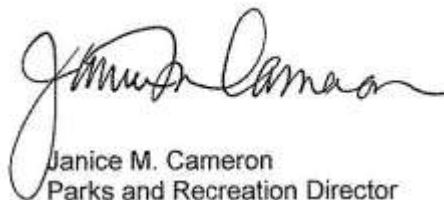
There were no public comments.

11. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, and no need for an executive session, the meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz.

Meets established criteria.



Janice M. Cameron
Parks and Recreation Director